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BPA awards community education grants

Bonneville Power Administration

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TOPPENISH, Wash. - The Toppenish School District received a \$3,000 grant today from the Bonneville Power Administration.

The grant is one of 13 such grants given throughout the Northwest as part of BPA's Education Program. The grants will support projects that teach environmental awareness and energy efficiency to elementary, middle and high school students.

"Northwest educators are seeing tighter budgets," said Joan McNamara, BPA's education coordinator. "Organizations like BPA should help find creative ways to supplement the shrinking education dollar. As an organization committed to supporting education in the Northwest, BPA is proud to award this grant to Salmon Education and Restoration in the Toppenish School District."

Thanks to a Community Education Grant from BPA and two teachers, Toppenish School District's 3rd, 4th and 5th graders will get salmon education in class and on field trips in the Yakima Valley. They also will participate in a habitat rehabilitation project on Status Creek. Third grade teachers Deborah Boekholder and Claudia Halderman have involved their students in salmon education for the past two years; this year, with help from the grant, they will be expanding the program to six classes.

"We are looking forward to working with BPA to insure that students grow to become stewards of the environment," wrote Halderman and Boekholder.

The other 12 grant recipients are:

- Water Awareness Week 1997 sponsored by the Idaho Department of Water Resources
- The Montana Energy Calendar sponsored by the 1997 Montana Energy Education Council
- Salmon Camp sponsored by the Oregon Museum of Science and Industry, Portland, Ore.
- Plant a Tree, Save a Fish sponsored by the Public Power Council and the Yakama Indian Nation Salmon Corps, Portland, Ore.
- The OCEEE Grant Program sponsored by the Oregon Collaboration for Energy, Education and the Environment, Portland, Ore.
- Salmon Watch sponsored by Oregon Trout, Portland, Ore.
- The Edison Project sponsored by Clallam County Washington Youth 2000
- Classroom Workshops sponsored by Snohomish County Washington Public Utility District #1
- Meet Mr. Electricity sponsored by the Columbia Valley Gardens Elementary School in Longview, Wash.

- Energy, Environment and Community sponsored by the Energy Outreach Center in Olympia, Wash.
- The Richland Summer Science Camp sponsored by the Columbia River Exhibition of History, Science and Technology; Richland, Wash.
- Lake Roosevelt Water Festival sponsored by the Lake Roosevelt Water Festival Planning Committee in Colville, Wash.

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For more information, contact Joan McNamara, jhmcnamara@bpa.gov, 503-230-3709.
